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Loan for N.E.S. Scheme from Central Government

* 1200 Q.—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) the total amount granted by the Central Government during 1953–54, to the State Government towards the National Extension Service Scheme; and

(b) whether the amount bears any interest; and

(c) if so, the rate of interest?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" (a) The total amount granted by the Central Government during 1953–54 towards their share of expenditure is Rs. 9,52,000. A loan of Rs. 4,48,000 was also advanced to the State towards Minor Irrigation Schemes in National Extension Service areas.

" (b) No. But the amount of loans advanced for Minor Irrigation purposes alone bears interest.

" (c) The rate of interest at 4–1/8 per cent."

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR:—" Sir, may I know whether in utilising this loan, distribution is made on a territorial basis or on what basis and whether the funds are specially earmarked for any special purpose?"

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM:—" The loan is earmarked for special purposes relating to agricultural development and it is distributed on a territorial basis to each block."

Bombay-Cape Comorin road

* 1201 Q.—SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state with reference to answer to question No. 1270, dated 12th August 1954—

(a) whether the work connected with the Bombay-Cape Comorin National Highways in the Taliparamba has begun after the recent decision by the Government of India to align the road via Taliparamba; and

(b) if not, when it will be begun?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI:—" (a) & (b) The Bombay-Cape Comorin Road in this State has not been classified as a National Highway. The Government of India have however agreed to meet 50 per cent of the cost of improvement works on this road up to end of 31st March 1955 and the entire expenditure on such works from 1st April 1955 onwards.

" The works of constructing a bridge over Kuppam river and of blacktopping the stretch of Payyanur-Cheruthayam road from mile 73/0 to 76/0 will be taken up shortly. The remaining improvement works on this section of the West Coast Road will also be taken up as early as possible."

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SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Sir, in spite of the decision taken by the Central Government with regard to the alignment of the road, the construction of the Kuppam bridge which was started three years back, and suspended, I do not know why, is still kept suspended; will the Government see that the construction of the bridge is taken up at an early date? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" The Superintending Engineer concerned has invited tenders for the work by advertising in the dailies. The last date for receipt of tenders is 16th February 1955. As soon as the tenders are received and a decision taken the work will be started."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Of the portion included in the Bombay-Cape Comorin Road may I know what extent has been completed up to this time and what extent remains to be completed? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" I have no information; I want notice, Sir."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" Before the Central Government took the decision regarding the road, the Madras Government had decided to construct the bridge in Pazhayangadi ferry and to my question the other day, on the floor of this House, even the Hon. Minister said that estimate was prepared. Now the people residing in Pazhayangadi and other places have got neither a road nor a bridge. Even in the Budget nothing is seen about it. Will the Government be pleased to consider construction of the bridge over the Pazhayangadi ferry as requested by the people there? "

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI :—" It has no bearing on the main question. A separate question may be put, Sir."

" Central Flying Squad "

* 1202 SRI V. R. NAGARAJAN (on behalf of Sri K. Aranganathan) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the " Central Flying Squad " is in existence; and

(*b*) if existing, its present strength and the number of checks it made in 1953 to detect cases of overload in buses and lorries?

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Generally, do these Flying Squads merely fly about? Or, is any work attached to them? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" The effect will be check of malpractices."